

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. You've heard the motion to advance the bill. Is there any discussion? If not, those in favor of the advancement of the bill vote aye, opposed nay. Voting on the advancement of LB 874. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of 874.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 874 advances. LB 980.

CLERK: 980, by Senator Abboud. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 7 of this year, referred to the Agriculture Committee, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, maybe I should just let Senator Johnson take this bill, he seems to be going along pretty good. It did come out of the Agriculture Committee. The law currently requires that any person holding himself out to the public as being engaged in the business of storing goods obtain a license from the Public Service Commission prior to doing so. In the act "goods" is defined as anything tangible except grain, livestock, items in cold storage, or motor vehicles. Some examples of commonly stored merchandise that are included under the law currently include freight, manufactured goods and furniture. The Public Service Commission supported the bill. The Nebraska warehousemen support the bill. Because of the nature of public storage facilities the quantity and quality of goods stored at public warehouses in dealing with these items cannot be quantified by a Public Service Commission inspector at the time of inspection. Goods stored in public warehouses are usually boxed and crated. It is not possible for an inspector to visually check each storage account to see that it is in storage and that it is in good shape. The focus of the inspection becomes, therefore, to make visual checks of the warehouse only to see that the warehouseman is exercising reasonable care when storing the goods and to inspect the facility for conditions which may be detrimental to the storage. The inspection essentially becomes a housekeeping check. Given this element, the Public Service Commission is of the opinion that its inspections give a false sense of security to the